

**REMARKS**

By this amendment, claims 13-28 are currently pending. No new matter has been introduced by these amendments.

The examiner is respectfully requested to consider the above preliminary amendment prior to examination of the application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should be charged to our deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: December 20, 2004

By:

  
Ernest F. Chapman  
Reg. No. 25,961